

## MEMORANDUM

TO: All hospital CEO's and CFO's

FROM: Dennis Phelps, Deputy Director, Audit and Compliance

SUBJECT: Medical Debt Regulations

DATE: October 17, 2022

Effective January 1, 2022, Chapter 770 of the laws of 2021, which amends Health-General Article ("HG") §19–214.1 and §19–214.2, related to hospital financial assistance and medical debt became law. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, I sent a memorandum regarding these legal changes to hospitals. I also forwarded an opinion letter from the Legislature's Assistant Attorney General about the implementation of this law before regulations and guidelines are promulgated by HSCRC on December 7, 2021. As a reminder, HSCRC expects that hospitals are complying with the law to the greatest extent possible, in accordance with that opinion letter.

HSCRC proposed regulations on medical debt, including guidelines on payment plans, earlier this year (See attached). HSCRC received extensive public comments on this proposed regulation and is currently reviewing those comments. We will provide an update on the status of those regulations after that review is completed.

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